

REMARKS

Claims 14, 16, 17, and 28 were canceled. Claims 18 and 19 were amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 18 to 23 and 27 are pending now in the present application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 18 to 23 and 27 would be allowable if rewritten so as to not be dependent on a rejected claim. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 18 and 19 to include the features of any base claim(s) from which each depends. While Applicants believe that the now-canceled claims also recite allowable subject matter, those claims were canceled in the interests of further prosecution of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file any divisionals or continuations including the subject matter of the canceled claims.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that all of claims 18 to 23 and 27 of the present application are allowable for the foregoing reasons.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claims 18 to 23 and 27, has been obviated, and that those claims are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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